



ANIMAL SERVICES NEWS

Arizona Department of Agriculture - ASD Newsletter

January 2018

Livestock Inspection Improvements

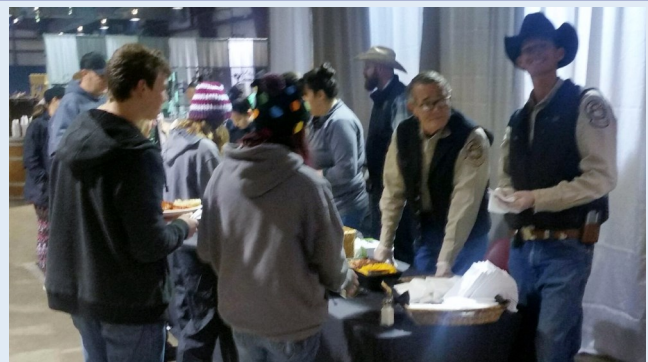
As we approach a new year, we want to reflect on items we've implemented for livestock inspections over the last couple of years in the order to make our processes more efficient and better for you, the customer. The following briefly describes a few of the items we've implemented.

We have greatly improved the time it takes customers to receive a livestock brand. In the past, it took approximately 278 days to process a new livestock brand application. The Department is currently processing new livestock brand applications within 64 days, which includes a publication requirement of 30 days. This has resulted in an improvement rate of 77%. The team has been so successful that the story is highlighted on the Office of the Arizona Governor's website.

As of July 1, 2017, for the first time in over a decade, you can reach a live dispatcher 24/7. You can also contact your field staff member directly to schedule an inspection.

We have implemented quite a few technological improvements, which is what our customers told us they wanted during our stakeholder meetings. Customers now have the option of paying online. All of our applications are also online. Both the self-inspection and field staff inspection programs are now available electronically. There have been numerous occasions where the new IT-based field staff inspection program has saved the customers time and money. We have installed software on a terminal in the lobby so the seasonal pass application process takes less time for our customers.

We would like to thank our amazing staff that provide an important service to the livestock industry. During the fall shipping season, they conducted 2,670 inspections for the months of September, October, and November without missing a single inspection, which is very impressive.



Ten employees of the Animal Services Division volunteered to serve breakfast at the Arizona Nationals Exhibitor Breakfast on Friday, December 29. This was a great opportunity for staff to interact with the customers they serve.



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Livestock Officers Now Carry Narcan

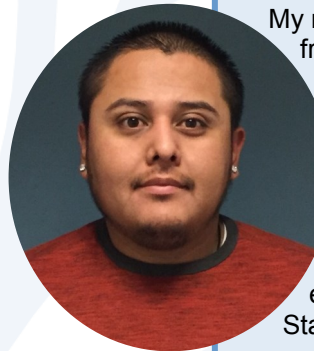


In June 2017, Governor Ducey declared opioid deaths and overdoses a statewide health emergency. Livestock officers work throughout the state, often in remote areas, and have seen the devastating effects of the opioid epidemic in Arizona communities. To aid Governor Ducey in his efforts, livestock officers now carry Narcan or naloxone, a medication that reverses an opioid overdose. We are also working with DPS and local sheriffs' offices to integrate our systems so that the livestock officers would be notified of an overdose call near them.

Meet the new members of the Meat & Poultry Inspection team!



Hello, everybody. My name is **Adriana Marquez**. I was born in Mexico City and one of my hobbies is cooking. I like to do exercise and I am bilingual. I am so excited to work for the State of Arizona.



My name is **David Gaitan**. I am from Gilbert, AZ and I was raised on the San Carlos Apache Reservation. I enjoy being in the outdoors hunting and fishing, and I spend some time coaching my sister's soft-ball team as well. I'm very excited to be working for the State of Arizona.



My name is **Meghan Mills**. I have been a stay-at-home mom for the last few years. I enjoy the outdoors and riding my horses any chance I get! We own a small hobby farm at home consisting of pigs, goats, horses, cows and chickens. I was born and raised in Queen Creek, Arizona (I don't like the cold)... I am very outgoing and always try to keep a smile on my face! I am looking forward to my career in the Department of Agriculture.



Happy New Year!

Contact Us

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